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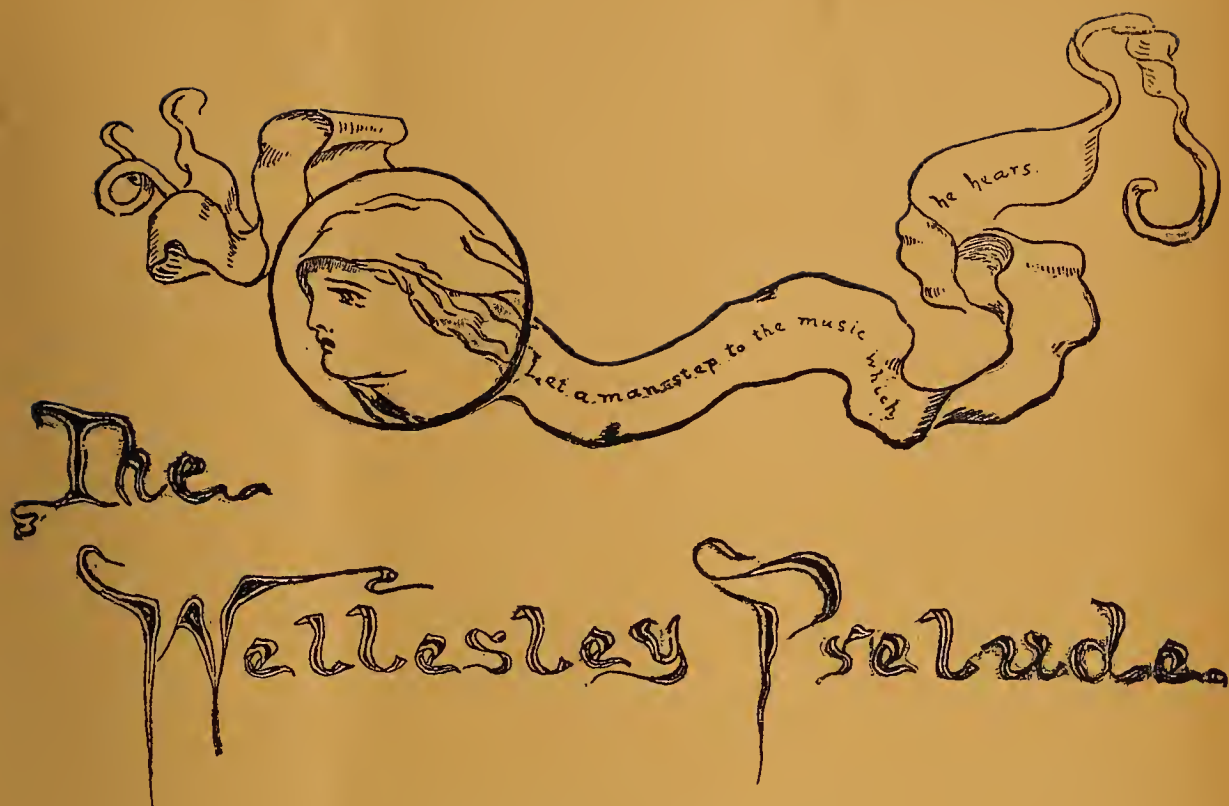
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JANUARY 16, 1892.

GRAPHIC PRINT, NEWTON, MASS



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# THE WELLESLEY PRELUDE.

VOL. III.

NEWTON, MASS., JANUARY 16, 1892.

No. 15

## The Wellesley Prelude.

Edited by the Students of Wellesley College and published weekly during the college year. Price \$2.00 a year. Weekly copies 5 cents. Monthly copies 15 cents.

### EDITORS:

BLANCHE B. BAKER, '92.

JANET E. DAVIDSON, '92.

AGNES S. HOLBROOK, '92.

HELEN G. EAGER, '93

CAROLINE N. NEWMAN, '93.

HELEN R. STAHR, '94.

ETHEL STANWOOD, '94.

ANNIE SYBIL MONTAGUE, '79.

MISS CAROLINE MUGGETT, SP.

All literary communications from the students of the college should be sent to the LITERARY EDITOR OF THE PRELUDE, through the PRELUDE box in the general office. Literary communications from outside the College should be directed to the Alumnae Editor, Miss Annie Sybil Montague, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.

Subscriptions and all business communications should be sent in all cases, to Helen Eager, Wellesley College, Wellesley Mass.

Advertisements should be addressed to Mr. Fred W. Walker, 74 Tremont street, Room 21, Boston, Mass.

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### EDITORIALS.

Now that the new term has brought us again to examination time, and the student, divided between hope and fear, is devoting her best energies to a "systematic cramming," the oft-considered question arises, "Are examinations necessary." The question is not one which Wellesley alone is considering, but it must appeal to the student of every college which has its annual or semi-annual "reign of terror." The *Oberlin Review* says of the question: "We are glad to see that the old system of examination is being transformed. In one class those whose average for the term is above a certain mark, are excused from the final examination. One teacher requires the preparation of an essay to hand in on examination day. Another requires reading in connection with the study, and a report that shall be a sort of summary of the term's work. Like all questions

worthy of careful consideration, the question of examination has two sides, and much can be said in support of both sides. Examination time offers a chance for reviewing the term's work, and thus for obtaining a more thorough and systematic grasp of the subject than the student could otherwise possess. Very good. But cramming, it is alleged, is the inevitable result of an attempt to review the entire term's work in a few days, and much unscholarly and useless preparation is made. If cramming could be done away with, the objectionable features of examination time would be removed and the examination would prove a valuable aid in the student's work. There are some examinations which do not necessitate cramming, those for instance that call for penetrative, independent thought and original work, and require only such a clear general understanding of the subject as can be obtained from the class room review. There seems to be a growing tendency at Wellesley for a change of some sort. Examinations which require original work are given more often, and in several of the departments it has been the custom to substitute a thesis for the regular examination. A thesis generally represents the best work of the student. It represents a clear and thorough knowledge of her subject, careful and logical treatment, and, what is most important of all, original thought. Here at Wellesley we devote our two weeks to the review and the examination. If this time were all given up to a thorough systematic class room review under the supervision of the instructor, and a written paper required from the student at the close of the period, the work could not fail to be satisfactory and thorough. Such a method would not mean less work. On the contrary it would probably mean more, but it would demand her best work, and be a thorough test of what the term's work has been to her.

*Blanche B. Baker.*



## WOMEN'S INFLUENCE IN POLITICS.

Our chivalrous fathers, brothers and friends, in their desire to give us the name of all power as well as the reality of a great deal, frequently tell us that we control the ballot box by our influence. With all deference to the lords of creation, we venture to deny it. If you want proof, go to a hundred Wellesley girls in turn. You will grant it is more than fair to give you college women for your test, and ask them what their politics are and why. If you get any answer at all to the first, your answer to the second will be, in almost every case, "Because my father is." The influence seems to be on the other side.

If then, you follow the matter up, your answerer will (and with good reason) plead ignorance; and if you ask her why she has grown to womanhood blind and deaf to what is going on about her, while her brother, no more intelligent, no more earnest, than herself, has at least seen and heard, she will, perhaps, tell you, "Men have so much better opportunity for learning such things. They absorb them unconsciously." The grain of truth in that argument is more than balanced by another. Women, as a rule, are better educated than men and have more time to think and read. Politics is not all work; it needs brains and heart. Who is better qualified to give them men, who in the rush of business have no time to think carefully and judge calmly, or women with leisure to think and knowledge to guide them? If we had opinions, based on knowledge and thought rather than on prejudice or moral impulse, to offer men, perhaps we might control their votes.

To be sure there might be some independent men who would object to this rule of woman, when it really came, who would say, perhaps "Better half a loaf than no bread," and split their ballot in self-defence; but that is in

their hands, not ours. They have generously claimed the power for us through that truly mild and feminine word, influence. Shall we surprise them by taking it? Or shall we be content (oh, shades of Wellesley!) in this alone to plead ignorance?

*M. P.*

## AN EXPLANATION.

I was somewhat surprised to read Miss Conyngton's article on "Wellesley and the Press," and I fear that, in my earnestness to protect Wellesley from slander, I have given a false impression of my position in the matter.

I would, by no means, advocate strict privacy in regard to all Wellesley affairs. I agree with Miss Conyngton that that would be to injure, not to advance, the interests of the college. On the contrary, I would prefer that every paper in Boston and New York should be kept accurately informed of the affairs of the college than that the girls should talk about them outside, so that the newspapers get hold of an end to which to tie a string of lies. It is, in general, not the truth that injures, but the misrepresentation and the misunderstanding, and it seems to be a deplorable fact that such a matter as the recent occurrence at Wellesley cannot get into the press without being distorted out of all resemblance to the original facts.

I cannot agree with Miss Conyngton, that Wellesley's reputation cannot be injured by slander. It may be said that we can deny false reports. Yes, we can, and they have been denied and the truth published in the leading New York papers. The editors have also received a few valuable suggestions in regard to publishing and commenting upon reports of which they have not yet ascertained the truth. Yet, now that the mischief is done, I feel that the utmost that we can do, cannot obliterate the impression made upon the public by the articles to which I referred.

The objection to free newspaper discussion is that too often things are neither truthfully reported nor fairly discussed. There is sometimes danger of too liberally attributing one's own nobility of purpose to other people, and it seems to me that is what my critic has done, when she supposed the newspapers to have taken a laudable interest in the welfare of the future college. If one may judge from the articles that they have published, they have seized upon this incident, not for any lofty and disinterested purpose, but simply to make a sensational story with which to pad their papers, and I presume that I express the opinion of more than one Wellesley girl when I say that I would rather be used myself as padding for their papers, than to see Wellesley College and the officers of Wellesley College so used. If all reporters were strictly truthful and editors were gentlemen, I would not have written the article that I did, but, unfortunately, this is far from the case.

Now that I know the one small fact upon which these lies were built, I confess I should never have thought that, so long as I did not speak with disrespect of the college authorities, any harm could be done by mentioning it outside the College. But harm was done, and I wish every Wellesley girl could read the article which appeared in *The New York Sun* in regard to it. I can assure you it would not be, a pleasant task, but it might be a warning to us all, as it certainly was to me, to be discreet in this matter.

G. M. W. Fanning, '91.

Tarrytown, Dec. 18, 1891.

#### AT THE PHYSICS TABLE.

*First Junior.* The Freshmen on this corridor make an abominable noise; I wonder if some nerve tonic wouldn't be good for them?

*Second Junior.* We might try some of the physics which we find on this table.

(A Father's Soliloquy.)

#### MY COLLEGE GIRL.

I.

She is skilled in Mathematics,  
And knows more of Hydrostatics  
Than I learned in all my plodding years at Yale.  
She performs experiments  
With the divers elements,  
That would make her little brother's cheek turn  
pale.

II.

She can French and German speak,  
And can write in Ancient Greek,  
Getting all the various accents quite correct.  
Though she deals hard blows at Russians,  
In Historical Discussions,  
In her Logic not a flaw can I detect.

III.

She, altho' 'tis not her habit,  
Can dissect a good sized rabbit,  
Giving you the name of each and every bone.  
Much she knows of plant and tree,  
On the land or in the sea,  
Slighting not meanwhile the all important stone.

IV.

Like a statue can she pose,  
And interpret learned prose  
In a way that makes my pulses wildly beat.  
She has studied poetry, -Lyric,  
Epic also, and Satiric,  
Till her Diction and her Style are quite complete.

V.

She has studied *me*—the sinner!  
And can cook as good a dinner  
As a hungry man would ever wish to spy.  
And I challenge the world over,  
If two folks they can discover,  
Quite so happy as my College Girl and I.

A. W. K. '94.

A small boy came weeping to his mother with a bleeding cut on his forehead. She, alarmed, said, "Why, Tommy, who hurt you so?" "Oh," he replied, "a *friend* of mine hit me."

## COLLEGE NOTES.

## WEEKLY BULLETIN.

Monday, January 18, Concert.

Sunday, January 24, Service in the Chapel at 11 o'clock, preaching by Rev. Geo. W. Gardner.

Monday, January 25, Reading by Mr. Le-land T. Powers.

Rev. Edward S. Hume, of the Bombay High School, which is under the care of the American Board, preached in the Chapel on last Sunday morning. He took as his text the opening verses of the sixty-first chapter of Isaiah. Mr. Hume gave a most interesting account of the political, social, and religious condition of India and of the progress which is being made in all these lines.

At half past five on Sunday afternoon Mrs. Hume dressed her little daughter in the costume of a Hindoo bride, and took her to the Faculty parlor. There many of the girls came to see her and Mrs. Hume explained the different parts of the costume.

On Tuesday evening Mrs. Hume spoke in the Chapel of her work in India. It is hard for us to imagine such a city as Bombay with a population of 830,000 and with seven hundred and thirty-six languages spoken within its limits. Every race on the face of the globe is represented but the North American Indian and the Esquimaux. It is in this great city that Mrs. Hume is doing her work and she told of the ways in which they reach the hearts of the Indian women, of the wrongs which these women endure, of their desire for Christianity and eagerness in Christian work; and of our privilege as compared with theirs.

All "Christian Endeavor" girls gathered in the Faculty parlor for a few moments after church last Sunday morning to hear an exhortation to make it their responsibility to keep up interest and enthusiasm in the prayer-meet-

ings here at College. We believe that they do carry a responsibility in this matter, but should they alone carry it? Are there not many of us here, who, because we do not belong to a Christian Endeavor Society, believe that we have no responsibility in this direction? Is this so?

At a meeting of the Christian Association held on Friday evening, January 8, Miss Little, '92 was appointed as a delegate to attend the Convention of the Woman's Board of the Congregational Church, held in Brooklyn during the past week.

The following is taken from the Berliner Sageblatt of November 5, 1891;—"Permission has been granted to Miss Gentry, a teacher of mathematics from North America to attend, as a guest, the lectures of certain professors of mathematics at the university of this city." Miss Gentry is the lady who is abroad on the Intercollegiate Alumnae fellowshipship.

Examinations began today. What awful things are implied in those words! The terrified quakings of the Freshman, going through her first experience of these nameless terrors, which they find aren't so bad after all, and the dignified mien of the Senior who has actually got used to them, and gazes down with scorn upon those not so calloused as herself. But all this fright and scorn will be over soon and forgotten when we settle down into the regular routine of lessons again.

Phi Sigma held its regular programme meeting, postponed from last term, on last Wednesday evening.

The first of a series of lectures on Assyriology, by Prof. Lyon of Cambridge, was delivered in the Chapel on Friday evening, January 8. This course of lectures is intended primarily for Bible courses I and II, but all others are invited. The subject of the first lecture was "Babylonian Stories of the Creation and Deluge." Prof. Lyon said that the



geography of the first eleven chapters of Genesis is decidedly Babylonian, and the descriptions in these same chapters correspond to Babylonian-Assyrian art and literature. These facts point to some connection between these chapters and Babylonian-Assyrian literature, and it is found that in the Babylonian literature, there is a parallel story of the Creation and Deluge, and two records of this story are found in Babylonian-Assyrian writing. These stories are portions of two great poems. The Creation poem contains about ten hundred and fifty lines. It represents the world as formed from a great dragon, but there is no detailed account of the creation of men given. The account of the Deluge is much fuller than that of the Creation. The poem, which contains this, is called the Izdubar epic and contains about three thousand five hundred lines. Izdubar is the hero of the poem, and he is made to cross the River of Death, where an old man tells him the story of the Deluge. For the true relation between these stories and the Old Testament account Prof. Lyon referred his audience to George Smith on the "Chaldean Account of Genesis" and to the preface of a work by a French author on the "Beginnings of Scripture." After the lecture a number of stereopticon views, illustrative of Babylonian-Assyrian geography, literature and art, were given.

Miss Clara Helmer, formerly a Special, has returned to college to graduate with '93.

Miss Mariana W. Blood spent a day at the college not long ago.

A fac-simile of the Williams manuscript of the Syrian Anti legomena Epistles has been presented to the library during the past week.

Miss Cecilia Dickie, '94, and a member of the Angora, will leave College after the examinations on account of ill health and trouble with her eyes.

Each of the four societies received then complimentary tickets to the Yale-Harvard debate,

and the fortunate members of each society received and went to the aforesaid debate. Some mortals are most blessed.

Many, many girls have not returned and have left mourning friends behind them. We offer our consolation to '95, most especially, since she is most bereaved. The lost ones are: Evelyn Fletcher, '95, Maude Pike, '95, Madge Ballou, '95, Ella Freeman, '95, Florence Colgate, '95, Grace Paull, '95, Carrie Locke, Sp., Theresa Neuburger, '94, and Helen Sumner, '93.

During vacation the Wellesley Hotel, which was one of the features of the landscape seen from the south windows of the college, was burned to the ground. It was a very large wooden structure and a favorite place of the summer boarders. It is rumored that it is soon to be rebuilt.

Many girls have rejoiced to see the snow and visions of bobbing and tobogganing float through their brains in the midst of the deeper thoughts that cramming for examination bring forth. Bobs are already seen, but the coasting as yet cannot be compared with that of last year.

There are many girls who have been detained at home by illness and have not yet returned. Among the number are: Louisa Pope, '94, Elizabeth G. Strong, '92, Adeline C. Teele, Sp., Mary W. Renwick, Sp., Grace H. McFarland, '94, Helen Blakesle, '95, Margaret Lauder, '92, Ermina Ferris, '92, Fay Cook, '93, Harriet Damon, '92, and Jane McArthur, '92.

Any Wellesley student who was unable to be in the Chapel on Monday evening, when Mr. N. J. Corey gave his lecture on "Wagner's Opera of Parsifal," has much to regret. Mr. Corey needs no introduction here; for anything so vivid and interesting as his lectures are not soon to be forgotten, and it was but last year

he made us acquainted with the beauties of *Niebelungen Lied*. Although, Mr. Corey is an avowed Wagner enthusiast, he is impartial in his criticism of the great composer. He has made a careful study of all the Wagner operas, and presents this subject in a particularly clear way. The stereopticon pictures, which are photographs of the presentation at the Bay-reuth theatre add greatly to the lecture. Mr. Corey also illustrated by motives from the music itself. The opera is founded on a German legend, and was written especially for the Bay-reuth theatre. Wagner left express command that it should not be performed elsewhere, holding it too sacred to be given in an ordinary theatre associated with worldly ideas.

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#### MAGAZINES.

##### THE CONTEMPORARY REVIEW.

Andrew Lang calls attention to the *Mines of Herondas*, farces, trifles "from the highest literature of Greece," and gives the plots of six, with quotation. The personality, date and place of residence of Herondas are as obscure as the spelling of his name, but these few pages from life two thousand years ago, serve to keep up popular interest in Greece. They are mere scraps and lead to nothing, but are as naturally written as "The Apparition of one Mrs. Veal, the next day after her death, to Mrs. Bargrave, at Canterbury, the eight of September, 1705." They are works of a literary age, toys of an advanced society. Above all, they are human, and speak to us in a voice which (when translated), we can all understand.

Mrs. Sutherland Orr gives her views as to the "Religious Opinions of Robert Browning," in answer to criticisms on her biography of the poet. Although she claims for him no allegiance to the literal forms of Christianity, and quotes his own reflection that "the Christian scheme may even be a fiction," she dwells on his words that "the life and death of Christ, as Christians apprehend them, supply some-

thing which their humanity requires, and that it is true for them." The face of the epilogue to the *Dramatis Personae* :

"That one face, far from vanish, rather grows,  
Or decomposes, but to recompose,  
Become my universe that feels and knows!"

was to him the face of Christ, and the last word of his experience was that of Pippa's faith:

"God's in his heaven,  
All's right with the world."

The "No" Dance, by Sir Edwin Arnold, K. C. S. I., appears also in this review.

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#### CHRISTMAS MAGAZINES.

CENTURY.—Frank Stockton gives us a short story of "The Shadrach," a Christmas gift in the shape of a paper-weight made of the iron ore which passes through the smelting furnaces without being affected by the heat. This mysterious metal communicates its coldness to its owner, and plays havoc with lovers and friends as it is handed about, reaching the climax of its career in calming an infuriated bull.

Amelia Tere Mason gives a charming sketch of Mozart, following him through his precocious childhood, triumphant youth, neglected manhood, and desolate death, with the sympathy of a friend and the skill of an artist. He is compared with Gluck, who was the fashion in Paris during Mozart's residence there, and with Wagner, his great modern successor. Wagner may be compared with Michelangelo, Mozart with Raphael. Wagner is poet and musician, Mozart musician and poet. Mozart does not deal with his own mood, or indeed with the psychological side of his work, but is like an Aeolian harp, which every passing wind wakens into melody.

"Wulfy," by Vida Dutton Scudder, will command more attention from our students than any other magazine story. It is a sketch



of one of the waifs from the "New York Slums," especially interesting because of its truth, and touching in its simplicity and naturalness.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—"The Diminution of Drunkenness in Norway" is explained by the Earl of Meath to be due to the Norwegian method of regulating licenses. The number is limited by the municipal council to as many as it considers necessary for the public convenience, and the licenses are issued not to individuals, but to a society of shareholders which undertakes to conduct the trade in the public interest. The profits up to 5 per cent. on the capital invested are given to the shareholders, beyond that to the municipal council. In Sweden this surplus is supplied to reduce public burdens, in Norway is given to charities, benevolent societies, and philanthropic institutions dependent on voluntary subscription.

M. Armand Ruffer, in a treatise on "Preventive Medicine," presents an appeal for an institute of bacteriological research, and explains how immensely it would benefit science, health, commerce and agriculture.

Rev. Prof. T. K. Cheyne contributes a reply to "Ancient Beliefs in a Future State," in an article in the October *Nineteenth Century* by Mr. Gladstone, under the name of "Ancient Beliefs in Immortality." The dignity of the wrangling between the two gentlemen prevents any charge of hair-splitting, and the question as to whether Mr. Gladstone has misunderstood his authorities in stating that Persian influence in the Achaemenian period would promote Magianism rather than Zarathustrianism is probably settled by the Rev. Prof. Cheyne. To a common-place observer it might be more satisfying to have the conflict settled by a few rounds at boxing or fist-cuffing, where he can count blows, and see when a man is down: for one is left with a hazy impression that the zoroastrianizing of

the post exilic angelology and demonology of Judaism has been elaborately expanded, but is not quite confident whether Judaism has been made, marred, or left uninfluenced by the process.

*Agnes Sinclair Holbrook.*

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#### EXCHANGES.

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The best Christmas story of the week that has come to our notice is in the *Harvard Advocate*. The characters are the stock "grizzled lawyer, with a flinty heart," and the small street urchin whose tears and trials rouse his sympathy. *The Lawyer's Story*, in the same paper, is especially good. *Reminiscences of a London Playgoer, in the Cornell Era*, gives one a vivid picture of the stage as seen from the habitue of the pit and calls attention to the failure of Mr. Henry Irving's attempts to extend to the pit the booking or ticket system applied to other parts of the theatre. We clip the following:—

#### HYPNOSIS.

So sleep that when the summons come to join  
The crowd of yawning students hustling on  
To chapel in the morn, where each must take  
His place among the rest or absence get,  
Thou go not, if, at least, too "sick" thou art,  
Without thy breakfast, but, sustained and soothe  
By an unfaltering trust that thou wilt be  
Excused, do wrap the drapery of thy couch  
About thee, and lie down to pleasant dreams.

—*Lafayette.*

"One enjoys a good grind now and then," said the humorous cannibal as he devoured the Valedictorian.—*Yale Record.*

Young Lady.—How do you do Mr. Brown? I am so sorry to have kept you waiting.

Monday Caller (*College Freshman.*).—Oh, don't mention it, Miss Smith. You know the anticipation is often pleasanter than the realization. Prolonged silence.—*Lassell Leaves.*

## The Lay of the Rejected Contributor.

Lost ! Lost ! Lost !

Are my merry jibes on thee,  
And I'm glad that you can't hear  
The thoughts that arise in me.

O Well for the genial Eds.,  
As they sit in the sanctum at play !  
O well for their slashing shears  
As they cut up my jokes so gay !

But the mossy jokes come in  
To the box on the Co-op wall ;  
You can tell they are not fresh,  
By the thud they make in their fall.

Lost ! Lost ! Lost !  
Is my goodly wit on thee :  
But a musty joke either long or short  
Shall you ne'er again get from me.

— *Yale Record*.

## AULD ACQUAINTANCE.

The fourth annual reunion of the Washington Wellesley Association was held Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 29th, at the residence of the President, Miss Ethel Glover, '90. There were twenty members and five guests present.

At the preliminary business meeting the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss Emma Teller, '89; Vice-president, Miss Harriet Buckley, '89; Secretary, Mrs. Laura Paul Dieler, '79-'80; Treasurer, Miss Elizabeth Mayse, '92; Chairman of Business Committee, Miss Mabel Godfrey, '90.

The president opened the social meeting with an address of welcome in which she gave a cordial greeting to all, from the college girl to be to the faculty, of whom this year there was but one representative present, Miss Kendall. Miss Jessie Claire McDonald, '88, gave a most interesting account of a visit to Toynbee Hall in East London last summer. It was encouraging to hear of the grand work which is being done there in the way of University Extension. She spoke also of a similar work begun by two ladies at Hull House in Chicago, and of what is being done

towards University Extension in Washington itself by the local branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. Miss Kendall's address on "Opportunities for the Higher Education of Women in England," was the principal one of the afternoon. She compared the advantages of University education for women in England with those of Germany and our own country, and showed that at present the opportunities in England are superior. Miss Kendall was listened to with the greatest interest, for all felt that what she said was of especial weight, since she spoke from her own personal experience and observation. Miss Mabel Glover, '92, read the annals of the college for the past year, and her pleasing account of the "doings" for '91 was highly appreciated by "the back members" at least.

After singing Alma Mater the meeting became informal and the remainder of the afternoon was spent in discussing college news and interests and enjoying the good things provided by the hostess.

Miss Fannie T. Pendleton, '91, is teaching in the public schools in Westerly, R. I.

Miss Josephine C. Robertson, '91, has been appointed librarian at Northfield Seminary, Northfield, Mass.

Miss Adelaide Denis, '87, has accepted a position in the Jacksonville Academy, Jacksonville, Ill.

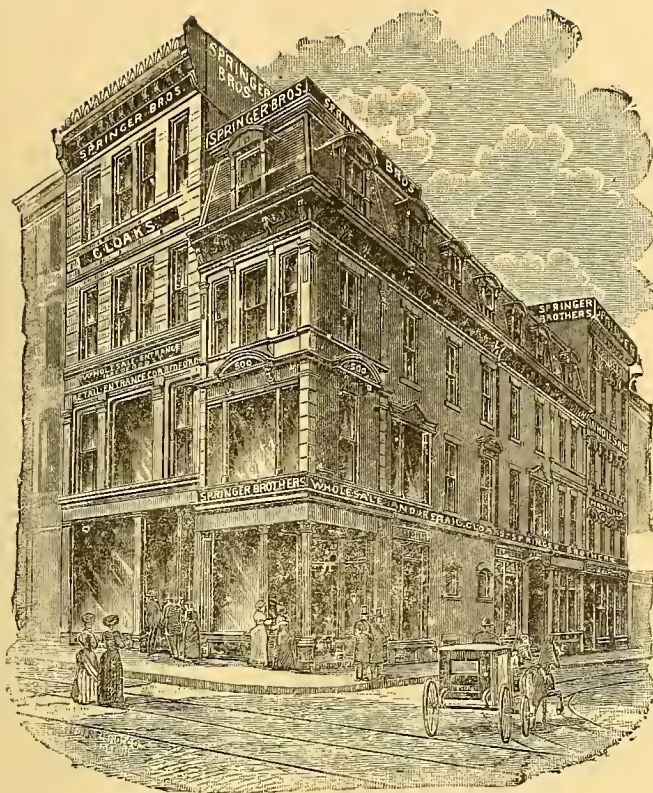
Miss Elizabeth H. Palmer, '87, who is teaching in Wheaton Seminary, Norton, Mass., read a paper at the last meeting of the Boston Wheaton Club on "Art from the Tourist's Standpoint."

## DIED.

In Plattsburg, N. Y., Dec. 13th, Mary McGill Gamble, sister of Eleanor A. M. Gamble, '89.

In Berlin Falls, N. H., Dec. 26th, Henry F. Wardwell, M. D., father of Mary Elizabeth Wardwell, '91.





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Stir in gently one-half of the cream dressing and pour the balance over the whole. Garnish the top with sliced hard-boiled eggs and gherkins, and sprigs of fresh parsley.

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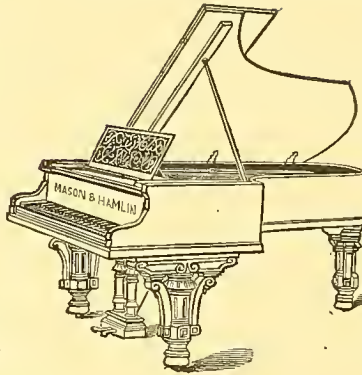
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